

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 305417

73

ORIGIN OC-05

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 /006 R

66011

DRAFTED BY A/OC/NEA:RLLOCHMILLER (ACTING): KLH

APPROVED BY A/OC:WENAEHER

----- 079070

R 311827Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS 3585

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305417

FOR RCO RICHARDSON

FOL REPEAT DAMASCUS 5106 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DEC 23

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5106

DEPT FOR OC, SY AND FBO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ACOM, ABLD, ASEC

SUBJ: CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476

REF: A. DAMASCUS 4561 B. STATE 288124

1. POST EVIDENTLY DID NOT SUFFICIENTLY EMPHASIZE  
KEY IF NOT OVERRIDING SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS  
BEHIND PROPOSAL REF A CABLE THAT RENOVATION WORK  
BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A CB TEAM ASSISTED BY ENLARGED  
CONTINGENT MARINE SECURITY GUARDS. POST CONSIDERS  
CONDITIONS DAMASCUS TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES  
SIMILAR TO IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES SO FAR AS  
HOSTILE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES  
CONCERNED. THERE ARE SOME 3,000 SOVIETS RESIDENT  
THIS COUNTRY NOT TO MENTION LARGE NUMBERS OTHER BLOC  
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PERSONNEL. SOVIETS WORK WITH SYRIAN SECURITY. WE

KNOW FROM DATT REPORTING THAT HUNGARIANS ARE SPECIFICALLY AIDING SYRIANS IN THIS ACTIVITY.

2. ALL OF THIRD FLOOR AREA INCLUDING ROOF IS RESTRICTED SECURITY AREA BY DEFINITION AND IN FACT AT THIS POST. EVEN ENLARGED CONTINGENT MARINE SECURITY GUARDS WILL BE UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY SURVEIL UNDISCIPLINED LOCAL WORKMEN PENETRATING WHOLE EMBASSY AND SPECIFICALLY THIRD FLOOR DURING THIS LONG PROJECT. IT WOULD BE WISHFUL THINKING TO ASSUME EMBASSY DAMASCUS IS NOT TARGET FOR ELECTRONIC PENETRATION AND THAT LOCAL WORKMEN NOT SUBJECT ABSOLUTE CONTROL SYRIAN SECURITY IF NOT OTHER HOSTILE ELEMENTS HERE.

3. POST IS DISMAYED AT LENGTHY DELAYS ALREADY ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING THIS ESSENTIAL PROJECT OFF THE GROUND. WE ARE NOT CONFIDENT OF THE SECURITY OF THE CCC AREA IN ITS PRESENT CONDITION. THIS SPACE WAS ACCESSIBLE TO HOSTILE ELEMENTS FOR SOME SEVEN YEARS WHEN IT WAS OUTSIDE THE PHYSICAL CONTROL US NATIONALS. IN ADDITION, WORKING CONDITIONS IN PRESENT FACILITY AND RELIABILITY OF PRESENT COMMO EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEM IS DEPLORABLE. RECENT AND REPEATED OUTAGES OF PRESENT LEASED LINE HAVE DEMONSTRATED ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR NEW CCC AND BACKUP RADIO EQUIPMENT IF POST TO HAVE DEPENDABLE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED PARAS IV, VI AND VII REF A CABLE IN LIGHT FACTORS CITED ABOVE. POST CONSIDERS CB TEAM ESSENTIAL ACCOMPLISH WORK IN SECURE MANNER. REQUEST FULL ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING ARRIVAL MATERIALS AND CB TEAM TO GET THIS JOB DONE.  
MURPHY

UNQTE  
ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 DAMASCUS 4561, 75 STATE 288124  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476  
**TAGS:** ACOM, ABLD, ASEC  
**To:** ATHENS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006